



Notes for *The presence of God within us: Incarnational reality & the true self*

presented by Sarah Colyn

This teaching considers the maturity of soul that must be chosen and developed in those who take up their cross to follow Christ. These notes outline the basic flow of the teaching and contain the full text and reference for each scripture and quotation shared. At the bottom of the notes are resources for further exploration of this topic.

**True Center**

And I will put my Spirit in you and move you to follow my decrees and be careful to keep my laws. Ezekiel 36:27, Today's NIV

I pray that out of his glorious riches the Father may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. Ephesians 3:16-17, NIV

The "home within" is the center in which we abide in Christ and Christ abides in us.

**The Illusory Self**

A false, mis-created center: Living in the constellation of feelings and attitudes that belong to the old self holds us in immaturity and causes dis-ease.

The illusory nature of evil: "All that is evil and untrue has an illusory character to it... Sin has to do, in a very real sense, with rebelliously demanding to experience what is not – what God did not create and can never look upon, much less bless" (Payne, *Healing Presence*, 85).

The construction of the illusory self: built on the flawed foundation, "I will be my own;" supported by pillars of pride & shame, defensiveness, and bentness; a prison cell in which accusation and condemnation echo; aligned with other false selves through projection and co-dependency.

**Transformation: Death, Life, & Spiritual Battle**

"Only the real 'I,' shedding its illusory selves, can draw near to God. In His Presence, my masks fall off, my false selves are revealed. I stand stripped and naked before Him. To continually abide in His Presence is to have one face only – the true one. To draw near to God, therefore, is to find the real 'I' as well as its true home, my true Center" (Payne, *Healing Presence*, 83).

Truly, truly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. John 12:24

**Resources on this topic:**

Chapter 5, "The Identity Crisis According to the Scriptures, in *The Broken Image*, by Leanne Payne

Part 2, "Incarnational Reality: The Presence of God Within Us," in *The Healing Presence*, by Leanne Payne

["God Within Us: Incarnational Reality and the True Self,"](#) live audio recording of lecture and prayer from an MPC school held in Wheaton, IL in 2019.